### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION,

Plaintiff-Applicant,

v.

BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT SECURITIES LLC,

Defendant.

In re:

BERNARD L. MADOFF,

Debtor.

Adv. Pro. No. 08-1789 (SMB)

**SIPA** Liquidation

(Substantively Consolidated)

# APPLICATION OF GRAF & PITKOWITZ RECHTSÄNWALTE GMBH AS SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE TRUSTEE FOR ALLOWANCE OF INTERIM COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED FROM AUGUST 1, 2013 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2013

Ferdinand Graf, together with other members and associates at the law firm of Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH ("Graf & Pitkowitz"), special counsel for Irving H. Picard (the "Trustee"), Trustee for the liquidation of the business of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC ("BLMIS" or "Debtor") under the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970, 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa *et seq.* ("SIPA"), and Bernard L. Madoff, submits this Application for Interim Allowance of Fees and Reimbursement of Expenses (the "Application") for compensation of legal fees in the amount of \$369,883.06 (of which 20% is to be deferred through the conclusion of the liquidation period) and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$4,169.66 for the period from August 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013 (the "Compensation Period").

In support of the Application, Graf & Pitkowitz respectfully submits as follows:

#### I. BACKGROUND

- 1. On December 15, 2008, Judge Stanton of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, upon application filed on the same date by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC"), entered an order (the "Decree Order") calling for the liquidation of the business of the Debtor in accordance with SIPA and by Paragraph II of the Decree Order, the Trustee was appointed as the trustee for the liquidation of the Debtor's business.
- 2. The Debtor's liquidation proceeding was removed to this Court pursuant to SIPA § 78eee(b)(4), and, to the extent consistent with the provisions of SIPA, is being conducted as though it were a case under chapters 1, 3, and 5 and subchapters I and II of chapter 7 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") pursuant to SIPA § 78fff(b).
- 3. Beginning on February 1, 2011, Graf & Pitkowitz has served as special counsel for the Trustee.
- 4. On March 14, 2011, this Court entered an order approving the Trustee's motion for authority to retain Graf & Pitkowitz *nunc pro tunc* as of February 1, 2011 as special counsel to the Trustee with regard to matters pertaining to Austria.
- 5. The Trustee's motion to retain Graf & Pitkowitz established a fee arrangement pursuant to which Graf & Pitkowitz agreed to a fee reduction in the amount of 10% as well as an additional holdback of fees in the amount of 20%.

#### II. SERVICES RENDERED BY GRAF & PITKOWITZ

- 6. The legal services performed on behalf of the Trustee during the time period covered by this Application are as follows:
- 7. During the Compensation Period, Graf & Pitkowitz reviewed and analyzed documents relating to U.S. and other proceedings against certain defendants.

- 8. Graf & Pitkowitz also provided written legal advice in connection with various issues of Austrian law, including the impact of foreign judgments on Austrian proceedings and the assessment.
- 9. Graf & Pitkowitz prepared for and met with the Public Prosecutor and officials at the Ministry of Justice.
- 10. Graf & Pitkowitz also prepared detailed written information on pending Austrian proceedings and attended numerous hearings in the District Court concerning witness testimony.
- 11. Graf & Pitkowitz also assisted with the review and preparation of expert testimony in the Austrian proceedings.
- 12. Graf & Pitkowitz also conducted legal research and provided practical assistance in the preparation of documents to be served on Austrian defendants.
- 13. Graf & Pitkowitz met with and communicated with Baker & Hostetler LLP and certain other of the Trustee's foreign counsel regarding pending Austrian proceedings.

#### III. COMPENSATION REQUESTED

- 14. The Application demonstrates how Graf & Pitkowitz has both added value to the Debtor's estate and has advanced the Debtor's SIPC liquidation proceeding.
- 15. Graf & Pitkowitz has been mindful of the need to avoid undue legal fees in this case and has taken all reasonable steps to provide cost-effective representation while rendering services with the highest degree of skill and professionalism. To that end, Graf & Pitkowitz has endeavored to eliminate duplication of effort by giving responsibility for the day-to-day conduct of the case to Ferdinand Graf and Nikolaus Pitkowitz, involving others only when necessary.
- 16. From August 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013, Graf & Pitkowitz provided a total of 744.6 hours of legal services to the Trustee in this case. Prior to the 10% discount, the total amount of fees incurred in this time period was \$410,981.18 and the total blended rate for

professional services was \$551.94/hour. After the 10% discount, the total amount of fees incurred is \$369,883.06 and the total blended rate is \$496.75/hour. Graf & Pitkowitz has agreed to a further holdback of 20% of its fees in the amount of \$73,976.61 resulting in the present request for compensation in the amount of \$295,906.45.

- 17. A breakdown of the total number of hours performed by each Graf & Pitkowitz timekeeper is provided on **Exhibit A** annexed hereto.
- 18. Graf & Pitkowitz seeks reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with its representation of the Trustee during the Compensation Period in the amount of \$4,169.66. An itemized list of these expenses is detailed on **Exhibit B** attached hereto.

#### IV. GENERAL MATTERS

- 19. All of the professional services for which compensation is requested herein were performed by Graf & Pitkowitz for and on behalf of the Trustee and not on behalf of any other person or entity.
- 20. No agreement or understanding exists between Graf & Pitkowitz and any other person for sharing compensation received in connection with this case nor has any other person or entity agreed to provide Graf & Pitkowitz with compensation for the legal services described herein.
- 21. Section 78eee(b)(5)(A) of SIPA provides in pertinent part that, upon appropriate application and after a hearing, "[t]he court shall grant reasonable compensation for services rendered and reimbursement for proper costs and expenses incurred . . . by a trustee, and by the attorney for such a trustee." Section 78eee(b)(5)(C) of SIPA specifically establishes SIPC's role in connection with applications for compensation and the consideration the Court should give to SIPC's recommendation concerning fees. That section provides as follows:

In any case in which such allowances are to be paid by SIPC without reasonable expectation of recoupment thereof as provided in this chapter and there is no difference between the amounts requested and the amounts recommended by SIPC, the court shall award the amounts recommended by SIPC. In determining the amount of allowances in all other cases, the court shall give due consideration to the nature, extent, and value of the services rendered, and shall place considerable reliance on the recommendation of SIPC.

#### SIPA § 78eee(b)(5)(C).

- 22. To the extent the general estate is insufficient to pay such allowances as an expense of administration, SIPA § 78eee(b)(5)(E) requires SIPC to advance the funds necessary to pay the compensation of Graf & Pitkowitz (see SIPA § 78fff-3(b)(2)).
- 23. The Trustee has determined, at this time, that he has no reasonable expectation that the general estate will be sufficient to make a distribution to general creditors or pay administrative expenses. The Trustee has been advised by SIPC that it concurs in this belief of the Trustee. Accordingly, any fees and expenses allowed by this Court will be paid from advances by SIPC without any reasonable expectation by SIPC of recoupment thereof.
- 24. Therefore, with respect to this Application, Graf & Pitkowitz requests that consistent with section 78eee(b)(5)(C) of SIPA, the Court "shall award the amounts recommended by SIPC." *See In re Bell & Beckwith*, 112 B.R. 876 (Bankr. N.D. Ohio 1990). Graf & Pitkowitz expects that SIPC's recommendation shall be filed with this Court separately.

**WHEREFORE**, Graf & Pitkowitz respectfully requests that this Court enter an Order:

- a. Granting this Application; and
- b. Allowing and awarding \$369,883.06, of which \$295,906.45 is to be paid currently and \$73,976.61, is to be held back through the conclusion of the liquidation period or until further order of the Court, as an interim payment for professional

services rendered by Graf & Pitkowitz to the Trustee from August 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013; and

- c. Allowing payment to Graf & Pitkowitz in the amount of \$4,169.66 for reimbursement of expenses incurred by Graf & Pitkowitz from August 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013; and
- d. Granting Graf & Pitkowitz such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 21, 2014 GRAF & PITKOWITZ RECHTSÄNWALTE GMBH

By: <u>s/Ferdinand Graf</u>
Ferdinand Graf
Stadiongasse 2
Vienna, Austria A-1010
Telephone: +43(1)401170

Fax: +43(1)4011740

#### **EXHIBIT A**

## SUMMARY OF INTERIM FEE APPLICATION OF GRAF & PITKOWITZ FOR SERVICES RENDERED FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 1, 2013 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2013

NAME	YEAR ADMITTED	HOURLY RATE	TOTAL HOURS BILLED	TOTAL COMPENSATION
Ronald Schon	1980	\$718.47	40	\$28,738.80
Ferdinand Graf	1990	\$670.71	59.6	\$39,974.32
Nikolaus Pitkowitz	1994	\$673.31	126.8	109,614.87
Jakob Widner		\$675.15	13.1	8,844.47
Robert Wachter		\$611.42	39.4	\$24,089.95
Thomas Hartl		\$478.05	233.2	\$111,481.26
Isabel Haider		\$479.01	77.1	\$36,931.67
Marija Krizanac		\$474.83	41.6	\$19,752.93
Sabrina Herndl		\$302.00	37.3	\$11,264.60
Elisabeth Sperka		\$505.36	32	\$16,171.52
Gorica Bubic		\$484.33	8.5	\$4,116.81
Total		\$551.94	744.6	\$410,981.18
Total Minus 10%				
Discount		\$496.75		\$369,883.06
Total Net 20% Holdback				\$295,906.45

#### **EXHIBIT B**

### EXPENSE SUMMARY OF GRAF & PITKOWITZ FOR THE INTERIM PERIOD OF AUGUST 1, 2013 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2013

EXPENSES	AMOUNTS		
Media Monitoring	\$744.14		
Travel Expenses	\$136.88		
Copies/printing Costs	\$3,120.59		
Telephone	\$15.94		
Database Fees	\$14.70		
Postage	\$61.39		
Miscellaneous	\$76.02		
<b>Total Expenses Requested:</b>	\$4,169.66		